

Internship Admissions, Support, and Initial Placement Data

Date Program Tables are updated: 6/5/2020

Briefly describe in narrative form important information to assist potential applicants in assessing their likely fit with your program. This description must be consistent with the program's policies on intern selection and practicum and academic preparation requirements:

According to VA policy, internship funding can be provided only to students who are U.S. citizens and are enrolled in APA-accredited doctoral programs in clinical or counseling psychology. We require that a prospective intern's university advisor or director of training verify that he or she approves and recommends the student receive an internship at this facility. Only 52-week full-time internships are available. All application materials for the 2021-2022 internship year need to arrive no later than 11:59 pm on November 26, 2020. A selection committee comprised of psychologists involved in internship training reviews applications. We seek applicants who have a sound knowledge and clinical base in intervention and assessment, and we look for interns whose training goals match the training that the Sioux Falls VA offers. We look for applicants who have the personal characteristics necessary to function well in our internship setting. Sioux Falls VA is committed to building a diverse group of practitioners, and actively encourages applications from underrepresented groups. Two internship positions are offered to assist in providing meaningful peer interaction, support and socialization. The VA HCS is an Equal Opportunity Employer. The selection of interns is made without discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, politics, marital status, physical handicap, or age. We are committed to providing a supportive and professional environment that values and promotes diversity. The Sioux Falls VA training program will closely adhere to guidelines put forth by the APA, VA and APPIC. All new VA HCS employees are subject to background checks during their orientation period. Interns are included in the random selection for drug screening during their appointments. Because of significant time delay between completion of criminal background checks and the start of the internship year, shortly after selection interns will be instructed to begin the procedure for completing appointments. Appointments are contingent on passing these screens. VA training occurs in a health care setting; some of the patients served by VA are elderly or infirm and could succumb to common illnesses like influenza. Documentation includes that vaccinations are up to date and that you have been screened for active tuberculosis prior to starting your training at a VA hospital. Securing a statement from university student health center, your regular health provider, or an urgent care clinic can expedite your appointment. Additionally, maintaining a current flu vaccination during the training year (or taking additional preventative measures to limit patient exposure to the flu) will be required. A Training Qualifications and Credentials Verification Letter is required as part of the onboarding process. The letter documents intern readiness for starting their clinical work at a VHA facility. There are requirements for such things as Hepatitis B vaccination (or signing a declination form), TB screening, screening against the List of Excluded Individuals and Entities database, etc. VA guidelines direct if the intern applicant is male, he must have registered with the Selective Service System by age 26 years. For details: <https://www.psychologytraining.va.gov/eligibility.asp>.

Does the program require that applicants have received a minimum number of hours of the following at time of application? If Yes, indicate how many:

Total Direct Contact Intervention Hours	Yes	Amount: 250
Total Direct Contact Assessment Hours	Yes	Amount: 50

Describe any other required minimum criteria used to screen applicants:

All personal interviews are conducted remotely, typically via video. Interviews are individual and coordinated by invitation only. Interviews are required of all applicants who make the final selection round. Candidates will be informed by email by end-of-business on Wednesday, December 2, 2020 concerning whether or not they have been invited for a personal interview. We regard interviews as a two-way process - a chance for us to meet and learn more about the applicant and an opportunity for the applicant to meet us and get a better understanding of our program. Interviews will take about a half day (beginning at 10:00 CST) and involve an informational session with the training director(s) and supervisor(s) for several rotations as well as formal interviews in the afternoon. For the current selection cycle, interviews will take place on Wednesday, December 16, 2020; Monday, January 4, 2021; and Friday, January 8, 2021. Applicants will need to be available to interview on one of those days should they be invited for an interview. All invitation emails are released at the same time, to allow for equal opportunity to schedule a preferred interview date. As there are a limited number of spots available on each day and we may not be able to accommodate an applicant's first date choice, we ask the applicant also specify alternate day preferences. Interview day appointments will be determined by the order in which emails are received. Once an interview day has been agreed upon, we will provide further information and details. We adhere strictly to the selection process guidelines established by the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC).

Financial and Other Benefit Support for Upcoming Training Year*

Annual Stipend/Salary for Full-time Interns	\$26,234
Annual Stipend/Salary for Half-time Interns	NA
Program provides access to medical insurance for intern?	Yes
If access to medical insurance is provided:	
Trainee contribution to cost required?	Yes
Coverage of family member(s) available?	Yes
Coverage of legally married partner available?	Yes
Coverage of domestic partner available?	Yes
Hours of Annual Paid Personal Time Off (PTO and/or Vacation)	4 hrs every 2 weeks
Hours of Annual Paid Sick Leave	4 hrs every 2 weeks
In the event of medical conditions and/or family needs that require extended leave, does the program allow reasonable unpaid leave to interns/residents in excess of personal time off and sick leave?	Yes. Negotiated on a case by case basis
Other Benefits (please describe)	NA

*Note. Programs are not required by the Commission on Accreditation to provide all benefits listed in this table

Initial Post-Internship Positions

(Provide an Aggregated Tally for the Preceding 3 Cohorts)

	2017-2020	
Total # of interns who were in the 3 cohorts	6	
Total # of interns who did not seek employment because they returned to their doctoral program/are completing doctoral degree	1	
	PD	EP
Community mental health center	0	1
Federally qualified health center	0	0
Independent primary care facility/clinic	0	0
University counseling center	0	0
Veterans Affairs medical center	0	2
Military health center	0	0
Academic health center	1	0
Other medical center or hospital	0	0
Psychiatric hospital	0	0
Academic university/department	0	0
Community college or other teaching setting	0	0
Independent research institution	0	0
Correctional facility	0	0
School district/system	0	0
Independent practice setting	0	2
Not currently employed	0	0
Changed to another field	0	0
Other	0	0
Unknown	0	0

Note: "PD" = Post-doctoral residency position; "EP" = Employed Position. Each individual represented in this table should be counted only one time. For former trainees working in more than one setting, select the setting that represents their primary position.